



November 12, 2008

Board of Airport Commissioners
c/o Ms. Gina Marie Lindsey
Executive Director
Los Angeles World Airports
1 World Way
Post Office Box 92216
Los Angeles, California 90009-2216

Members of the Board of Airport Commissioners:

At its regularly scheduled meeting on October 8, 2008, the LAX/Community Noise Roundtable (hereafter referred to as "Roundtable") was informed that earlier in the day the Board of Airport Commissioners (BOAC) did not award a contract to Harris Miller Miller & Hanson (HMMH) for professional facilitator and consultant services to the Roundtable as proposed by LAWA staff. It was further explained that, at the suggestion of Commissioner Zifkin, the BOAC recommended the Roundtable members consider paying a portion of the contract amount. As a formal response, a vast majority of the members of the Roundtable could not disagree more.

The mission of the Roundtable states that "It is the intent of the Roundtable to identify noise impacts in the surrounding communities and to recommend courses of action that could reduce noise over affected communities without shifting noise from one community to another."

The By-Laws of the Roundtable identify a representative from Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) "or his/her authorized designee shall serve as the Executive Secretary of the Roundtable" whose responsibilities include:

- Posting agendas for each meeting in accordance with the provisions of the Brown Act
- Recording motions, actions and essential elements of each meeting and making them available to members of the Roundtable and the public

The staff report for the BOAC's October 8, 2008 meeting states that "Management RECOMMENDS that the Board of Airport Commissioners..." "...FIND that this work can be performed more economically or feasibly by an independent contractor than by

City employees.” This would indicate that “Management” has found that hiring HMMH would be in the best interest of LAWA in fulfilling LAWA’s obligations under the by-laws of the Roundtable. (Namely, acting in the LAWA role of Executive Secretary)

With this understanding, the other members of the Roundtable can not support the idea of offsetting the costs of a consultant to LAWA.

Furthermore, the Roundtable objects to the suggestion in principle for the following reasons:

- The Roundtable members VOLUNTEER to help LAWA and are not compensated for the time, money and effort spent in helping LAWA “...identify noise impacts in the surrounding communities and to recommend courses of action that could help reduce noise...” The Roundtable members are not proposing to be financially compensated by LAWA for their service, so it is puzzling as to why LAWA would ask for the volunteer members to help pay for someone else to act as LAWA’s representative.
- The Roundtable members were not involved (nor was participation asked for) in determining the criteria established for the Roundtable Facilitator.
- The Roundtable members were not asked to be involved in the selection of the Roundtable facilitator. In fact, it was suggested to LAWA staff that Roundtable members participate in the process, and the Roundtable members were told that it was a LAWA contract and that LAWA staff would be making all determinations related to the contract.
- The Roundtable members were not involved in the negotiations for the fees for the Roundtable facilitator.
- The suggestion of Commissioner Zifkin comes in the 11th hour, after a candidate firm has been selected by LAWA staff, and a contract price negotiated.
- The Roundtable is not a party to the proposed contract with HMMH. Therefore, the Roundtable membership would be asked to help pay for a contract that they are not a party to.
- The Roundtable membership includes not only elected officials and staff from neighboring communities, but representatives from congressional offices, members of recognized community groups, the FAA and ATA. The Roundtable cannot see how the BOAC could ask congressional offices and the FAA to contribute funding, and it would be grossly unfair to ask some of the membership to pay and not others.

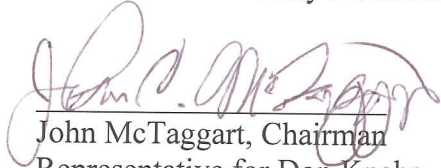
If it is the intention of the BOAC to reduce expenditures related to the Roundtable, it is the Roundtable’s collective recommendation that the price of the contract be examined. According to the staff report for the BOAC’s October 8th meeting, an annual contract amount of \$120,000 is proposed by LAWA Management for a period of three years. Of that amount, \$68,000 is identified for work associated with the Roundtable. The Roundtable meets ten (10) times during the year (the second Wednesday of each month with the exception of August and December). Although the Roundtable members understand that the scope of the contract is more than attending the typically two (2) to three (3) hour meetings, the proposed amount results in approximately \$6,800 per

meeting. The Roundtable members are of the common opinion that this amount seems excessive for the collective understanding of the facilitator responsibilities. The staff report also recommends \$52,000 for work with a Van Nuys Roundtable that has yet to be established.

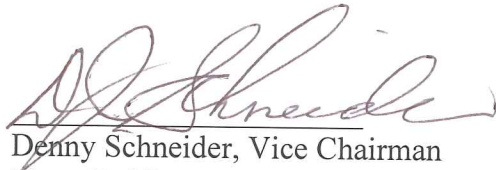
In conclusion, the membership of the Roundtable strongly disagrees with the recommendation for its members to share in the costs of professional facilitator and consultant to act in LAWA's defined role as Executive Secretary to the Roundtable.

Respectfully,

The LAX/Community Noise Roundtable



John McTaggart, Chairman
Representative for Don Knabe
Los Angeles County
4th District



Denny Schneider, Vice Chairman
Playa Del Rey Neighborhood Council &
Westchester Neighborhood Council